DOCKET NO.: MSFT-1741-301923.01 PATENT REPLY FILED PURSUANT TO **Application No.:** 10/600,178 37 CFR § 1.114

Office Action Dated: November 3, 2006

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 3, 2006, and the Advisory Action dated April 25, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

In summary, claims 1-10 and 15-22 are pending. Claims 1-10 and 15-22 are rejected UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 1, 10, 15 and 21 are independent claims from which claims 2-9, 16-20 and 22 respectively depend. Claims 1, 2, 10, 15, and 21 are herein amended. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, define over the prior art. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claim 21 has been objected to. Claim 21 has been amended. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection to claim 21.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claim 15 is amended to overcome the 101 rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 15 and its dependent claims 16-20 are proper. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of claim 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 and 15-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,381,742, issued to Forbes et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Forbes"). Forbes is directed to software package management. A software package manager includes components for a software package and a manifest. The manifest includes a list of software dependencies for the components of the software package. Forbes does not anticipate Applicants' claims because Forbes uses a manual, human-produced provided manifest to determine the dependency information. In contrast, as recited by Applicants' claims, "the

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components expose their dependencies to a cooperating interface" from which a list of defined dependencies are generated. That is, the software itself discovers the dependencies, the dependencies are not provided to the software. As Forbes does not disclose or suggest at least these features, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable and request the withdrawal of the 102 rejections of these claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present Application is in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims and an early allowance is earnestly solicited.

Date: November 30, 2007 /Joseph F. Oriti/

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